

## Mid-East Prophecy Update – April 3rd, 2011

- Every week, we set aside a few minutes on Sunday mornings to look at Bible prophecy
- The reason for this is because the Bible predicts certain events that will take place in the last days before the Lord returns.
- We believe that what's happening in the world today is a fulfillment of those Bible Prophecies.

- We look primarily at events in the Middle East, specifically related to Israel because, as it's been said; "Israel is God's prophetic clock."

- For today's update I would like to draw your attention to a news report from last week which revealed a video that has gone viral on the web.

On Tuesday, March 29th, The Assyrian International News Agency, (AINA), ran the report titled; "Iran's End Times Documentary." Here are excerpts from this breaking news story along with screen shots from the video documentary it references:

The Iranian government has produced a bone-chilling documentary that claims that Ayatollah Khamenei, President Ahmadinejad, and Hassan Nasrallah are talked about in Islamic prophecy as leaders who will wage war to bring about the arrival of the Hidden Imam, which the film says is "very close" to happening.

- Pictured here are an Iranian man and woman who host the documentary, with the caption reading; "...the question is and has been for every generation: Will they witness the reappearance in their lifetime?"

- By the way, I'm not sure if you noticed this or not, but this Muslim women is dressed exactly like a Catholic Nun.

Reza Kahlili, a former member of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards who spied for the CIA and authored A Time to Betray last year, procured the entire film and says it was created by close associates of Ahmadinejad and was shown to top clerics two weeks ago.

- A 28 minute shortened version of the film is available online, and because the website address is too long, you can simply Google; "The Coming is Upon Us."

- <http://atimetobetray.com/blog/iran-leaders-the-coming-is-upon-us—israel-shall-be-destroyed-watch-the-video/>

The purpose of the film is to make the case that Iran is prophetically destined to lead the war against Islam's enemies, which is as a prelude to the appearance of the Hidden Imam, also called the Mahdi, who brings the final victory for Islam and reigns over the whole world.

It uses current events to argue that "the final chapter has begun" and the Mahdi's arrival is imminent. Most disturbingly, it teaches that Khamenei, Ahmadinejad and Nasrallah are the individuals prophesied to make this happen.

The documentary claims that Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei is the Seyed Khorasani talked about in the Hadith that leads a nation in the East (Iran) as "the preparer" for the Mahdi's intervention. In July 2010, a senior Iranian cleric revealed that Khamenei had told close associates that he had privately met with the Mahdi and was told that he'd arrive before his time as Supreme Leader ends. Khamenei is 71 years old and widely understood to be in poor health, so the grand jihad that Khamenei believes he must command must come soon.

- The video contends the current Mid-East uprising in places like Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Syria, Jordan, et al, are the work of their Imam.
- I believe that we may very well be on the cusp of seeing the final fulfillment of that which was prophesied in the pages of Scripture.
- God's Word is replete with prophecies describing the signs that would mark the last days prior to the rapture and Christ's 2nd coming.

- Now, I know that some may hate me for this, but I'm going to stop there, and pick it up next week in what will end up being, "part two."
- There are a number of reasons, not the least of which is, we will have an unbalanced diet of God's Word, eating only dessert at the end.
- I see these prophecy updates as the dessert of the end times, because it satisfies our sweet tooth. But we need the protein of Romans.

- Furthermore, doing this gives you time during the week to view the video. Does that sound like I just gave you some homework? Good.
- Also, doing this will give us more time to celebrate the Lord's table, and I don't want to rush through communion service this Sunday.
- Finally, so much is happening so fast, that by the time we meet together next Sunday, more blanks will be filled in and dots connected.

**Luke 21:28** When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." NIV

**John 14:29** "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. NKJV